

[23 April, 2001]

. RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The number of AIDS patients is increasing because the infected cases of past years are now turning into full blown AIDS.

Government of India has launched comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme in all States and UTs including the following keys:

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counseling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections etc.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counseling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care to people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technicals, managerial, financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.
- Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sectors.

(c) and (d) Government of India is providing drugs for the management of HIV/AIDS related opportunistic infections in Public Sector Hospitals.

Special status to AIIMS

3966. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a plan to grant special status to the AIIMS; and

(b) if so, what would be its benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The All

India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) was established in 1956 by an Act of Parliament and was declared as an Institution of National Importance. Recently a Working Group has been constituted to look into the pay structure, perks and attendant infrastructure of 'Centres of Excellence' in the medical and scientific areas with Secretary, Department of Expenditure as Convener. The Working Group will develop norms and parameters which would enable the 'Centres of Excellence' to be separated and identified for the purpose of long term development of such institutions. The AIIMS also comes under the terms of reference of the Working Group.

Amount spent on AIDS awareness

3967. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent by Government to create awareness among the masses about AIDS in different parts of the country during the last three years; and
- (b) the details of the achievements made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Amount spent by the National AIDS Control Organisation for HIV/AIDS awareness activities is as follows:

(Rupees in lakhs)

1998-1999	3955.39
1999-2000	6347.27
2000-2001	6219.00

(b) The funds utilized for AIDS awareness have resulted in raising levels among the general population. According to a Preventive Indicator Survey conducted by NACO the awareness levels about HIV/AIDS has increased from an insignificant level to 68-94% in some urban areas and between 9-35% in rural areas due to the consistent media campaigns under Phase-I.